Dear Adventurous Carleton Alumni and Friends,

It is our great pleasure to invite you to join us on a journey into the heart of China, a vast and varied land where all the great religions of the ancient world have left significant monuments, and where armies and caravans of traders have contested for control of the rich resources found at both ends of the legendary Silk Road. Through the architectural and artistic monuments preserved across the region, you will have a chance to better understand the complex religious, cultural and political forces that have shaped the history of the peoples who live there.

The sites from the ancient capital of the Chinese empire, Chang’an (modern day Xi’an), through the oasis city states of Dunhuang and Turpan, to the central Asian city of Kashgar, vividly illustrate the rich multicultural heritage of this important global trade route. Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Manicheanism, as well as other religions, spread and flourished across the Asian continent from the 5th century B.C. to the 18th century A.D. We are very excited to share our love and knowledge of Asian art and culture through the lens of this fabled region.

Along the way, we will also observe the rapid transitions that are sweeping through China today, transforming it into a dynamic political and economic force in the region and the world at large.

We also encourage you to take part in an optional extension to Beijing, which will include exclusive access to areas of the celebrated Forbidden City not open to the general public, a tour of Beijing’s residential areas by sanlunche (pedi-cab), an intimate discussion with a local family in their home, and a private cocktail reception in an artists’ warehouse in the Dashanzi Contemporary Art Zone.

I hope that you will join me and my husband Jim Smith, Registrar of the Carleton Art Collection, on this adventure in art and religion across China.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Ryor

Kathleen Ryor
Associate Professor of Art History
Chair, Department of Art and Art History
Carleton College

CARLETON COLLEGE STUDY LEADERS

Katie Ryor, an associate professor of art history and chair of the art and art history department, is an expert in Chinese art and architecture and teaches courses on Buddhist art at Carleton. Her husband, Jim Smith, worked for 13 years as the collection manager of the Freer Gallery of Art, the Asian art museum of the Smithsonian Institution, and currently serves as Carleton’s art collection registrar.

For more information, visit go.Carleton.edu/4, call the Alumni Affairs Office at 800-729-2586 or e-mail amy.goerwitz@carleton.edu
This Exciting Adventure Includes:

- Fourteen nights hotel accommodations and one night in sleeper train (three nights hotel accommodations on the extension)
- All meals as outlined in itinerary, including welcome and farewell dinners
- All gratuities to drivers and guides
- All transfers with luggage handling at the hotels, airports, and train stations
- Transportation by deluxe motorcoach and overnight train and all flights in China
- A Siemer & Hand tour manager and a highly experienced Chinese national tour escort throughout the trip, plus excellent local guides
- The expertise of Professor Katie Ryor and Registrar Jim Smith
- Pre-trip service and pre-departure information

Registration

Please make check payable to Siemer & Hand Travel, and mail to: Alumni Adventures Along China’s Silk Road, Carleton College Alumni Affairs Office, One North College Street, Northfield, MN 55057.

Enclosed is my deposit of $______ ($500 per person) to hold______ place(s) on A Trip Along China’s Silk Road. Or, charge my deposit to:

[ ] MasterCard  [ ] Visa  [ ] Diner’s Club  [ ] American Express  [ ] Discover

Card Number  Expiration

Signature as it appears on credit card

Name  Class/Year

Name  Class/Year

Street

City/State/Zip

Telephone:  Home  Business

E-mail(s)

[ ] I/We request trip cancellation insurance covering the full trip cost. By purchasing the coverage now, I am also protected for the three conditions stated under “Travel Insurance” in the General Information section above. (Multiply the full program cost—including any nonrefundable air—by .055 for each traveler for a total premium of $_______.)

[ ] I/We would like to participate in the optional post-trip extension to Beijing.

Accommodations:

[ ] I wish to have single accommodations on the main program at an additional cost of $895 (subject to availability).

[ ] I wish to have single accommodations on the Beijing extension at an additional cost of $195 (subject to availability).

[ ] I wish to share accommodations with: ______________________________

[ ] I am willing to share with another participant:  [ ] smoker  [ ] non-smoker

(shares cannot be guaranteed)

[ ] I/We have read the General Information section and agree to its terms.

Signature(s)  Date

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Highlights of A Trip Along China’s Silk Road...

- Travel with Kathleen Ryor, Carleton Associate Professor of Art History and her husband Jim Smith, Registrar of the Carleton Art Collection
- Discover the remarkable army of Terracotta Soldiers in Xi’an
- In Dunhuang, visit Crescent Moon Lake, a spectacular green oasis surrounded by an endless desert landscape
- Explore the Bezeklik Caves in Turpan, Buddhist cave temples carved out of a cliff face
- Shop for leather goods, musical instruments and fresh spices at Kashgar’s Sunday morning bazaar
- Join an optional post-trip extension to Beijing, including exclusive access to private areas of the Forbidden City and a tour of Beijing by sanlunche (pedi-cab)

For more information, visit go.Carleton.edu/4, call the Alumni Affairs Office at 800-729-2586 or e-mail amy.goerwitz@carleton.edu

Photo this page: China’s Great Wall  Cover photo: A caravan on China’s Silk Road
Carleton College
Alumni Adventures

A Trip Along China’s Silk Road
with Art History Professor Katie Ryor
October 8 - 24, 2007

With an Optional Extension to Beijing
October 24 – 27, 2007
**U.S.**
Monday, October 8
Depart U.S. for Beijing

**BEIJING - XI’AN**
Tuesday, October 9
We arrive Beijing international airport and take a connecting flight to Xi’an. Hyatt Regency Hotel (D)

**XI’AN**
Wednesday, October 10
Today, we start our exploration of this ancient city with a visit to the Shaanxi History Museum, guided by our local history expert. After lunch, we visit Small Goose Pagoda before proceeding to the Great Mosque, where we meet an Imam to discuss the influences of Chinese and Muslim culture on each other. After free time in the Muslim quarter, we enjoy a distinctively Xi’an dinner at the Lao S Jia Restaurant, which has for many decades entertained political elites including the late state leader Deng Xiaoping and U.S. President Bill Clinton. Hyatt Regency Hotel (B, L, D)

**XI’AN**
Thursday, October 11
This morning we visit one of the most remarkable archeological discoveries in the world: the army Terracotta Soldiers that guards the tomb complex
of China’s first emperor, Qin Shihuang. After lunch, we tour the tomb of Emperor Qin Shihuang and the Forest of Stone Steles, home to China’s largest collection of calligraphy, all engraved on stone tablets by ancient masters. Hyatt Regency Hotel (B, L, D)

XI’AN
Friday, October 12
Today, we drive west to the Famen Temple, which plays a sovereign role in Chinese Buddhism, and houses precious treasures from the Tang Dynasty removed from the Underground Palace, including gold and silverware, colored glaze ware, porcelain and silks. After lunch, we drive to the Qian Mausoleum, a joint tomb of Tang Emperor Gaozong (Li Zhi) and Empress Wu Zetian. Later in the afternoon, we return to Xi’an for dinner and a restful evening. Hyatt Regency Hotel (B, L, D)

XI’AN - LANZHOU
Saturday, October 13
This morning, we study Tai-Chi with a master in a local park before breakfast. Afterwards, we leisurely stroll along the Ming Dynasty City Walls that still encircle the old city and then visit the Big Goose Pagoda. After a flight to Lanzhou, we enjoy dinner at local restaurant. Lanzhou Sunshine Hotel (B, L, D)

LANZHOU
Sunday, October 14
After breakfast, we visit Bingling Temple, a 200-meter-long series of Buddhist caves built in 420 A.D. This evening, we visit a local family and have a cooking lesson with locals on how to make noodles. Lanzhou Sunshine Hotel (B, L, D)

LANZHOU - DUNHUANG
Monday, October 15
This morning, we visit the Gansu Provincial Museum and its collections of color-painted potteries of Neolithic Age, treasures of ancient grottoes, precious linen and silk fabrics, books, wooden and bronze vessels, and a great many bamboo slips with writing from the Han Dynasty. We travel to Dunhuang on an afternoon flight, before dinner at a local restaurant. The Silk Road Dunhuang Hotel (B, L, D)

DUNHUANG
Tuesday, October 16
This morning, we visit the Mingsha Sand Dunes and Crescent Moon Lake, a spectacular green oasis surrounded by an endless desert landscape. Then, we drive to the magnificent Mogao Grottos, which mark the height of Buddhist artistic development in China. Before dinner, we enjoy a camel ride to a less-visited part of the Singing Sand Dune. The Silk Road Dunhuang Hotel (B, L, D)

DUNHUANG - TURPAN
Wednesday, October 17
Today, we visit the Modern Grottoes Art Project, where we learn how modern artists are developing a new form of art in and around the canyons near the Western Thousand Buddha Caves. We drive back to the hotel for dinner, and then take an overnight train to Turpan. (Overnight Train B, L, D)

TURPAN
Thursday, October 18
After breakfast, we visit the Emin Minaret, part of the Emin Mosque, located near the site of the ancient Uyghur capital of Gaochang. Afterward, we pass the Flaming Mountains (so named from their blazing red appearance) en route to the Bezeklik Caves, Buddhist cave temples carved out of a cliff face. Then we drive to the ancient city of Gaochang. Built in the first century B.C., Gaochang was once a garrison town and later became a key point along the ancient Silk Road. Green Oasis Hotel (B, L, D)

TURPAN - Urumqi
Friday, October 19
Today we visit the ancient city of Jiaohe (Yarkhoto). Once a flourishing state capital at the intersection of two rivers, the city sits on a 30-meter cliff. Today the river has dried up, but the city walls of
this ancient city remain, along with Buddhist monasteries, watchtowers, huts, and wells. In the afternoon, we drive to Urumqi for dinner in a Uyghur-style restaurant featuring Xinjiang delicacies, including lamb. After dinner, we stroll through a nearby night market.

Shenzhen Hotel Urumqi (B, L, D)

URUMQI - KASHGAR
Saturday, October 20
This morning we enjoy a boat ride and hike around the spectacular “Lake of Heaven,” located about 30 miles southeast of Urumqi. This afternoon, we visit the Xinjiang Regional Museum, with its fascinating collection of mummies, terracotta figures, pottery, porcelain, weapons, silk, and scriptures. This evening, we board a flight to Kashgar.

Kashgar Barony Hotel (B, L, D)

KASHGAR
Monday, October 22
Today we visit the Abakh Hoja Tomb, an ancient Islamic building nestled among poplar trees in the northeast of Kashgar, and the Muer Pagoda, built during the Tang Dynasty over 1000 years ago as an important Buddhist site. In the evening, we enjoy a Tajik dance performance.

Kashgar Barony Hotel (B, L, D)

KASHGAR - URUMQI - BEIJING
Tuesday, October 23
Today, we fly back to Urumqi and connect to Beijing.

Novotel Xingao Hotel (B, L, D)

BEIJING
Wednesday, October 24
Today, transfer to the airport for flights back to the U.S., or join the optional post-trip extension in Beijing.

(B)

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

made leather goods, traditional musical instruments and bags of fresh spices. Kashgar is also the heart of Islam within China, and thus we pay a visit to the Id Kah Mosque, the largest mosque in China.
### Optional Post-trip Extension to Beijing

**BEIJING**

*Wednesday, October 24*

This morning we visit a local park for a 30-minute Taiji Boxing lesson, where a local master shows us how to execute graceful, flowing exercises. After breakfast, we explore the Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall, where our local expert briefs us on the design of Beijing as a historical and modern metropolis. We also visit the National Opera House and the world-famous Tian’anmen Square. After lunch, we take a short walk to the Forbidden City, one of the grandest examples of traditional Chinese architecture. Here, we will have a tour of the northwestern corner—a restricted area open especially for our group—where decorations and ornaments remain unchanged. This evening, enjoy a traditional dinner featuring Peking Duck. **Novotel Xinqiao Hotel (B, L, D)**

**BEIJING**

*Thursday, October 25*

We rise early to explore the narrow streets, courtyards and *hutongs* (bystreets) of a Beijing residential area by *sanlunche* (pedi-cab). We drop into a family home for an intimate chat. After brunch at the beautiful Fragrant Hill Hotel we head to the Da Jue Temple for a private tea ceremony in the pleasantly shaded courtyard. Later we drive to the Summer Palace, a beautiful example of Chinese garden architecture. In the evening, we drive to Hou Hai for dinner at a local restaurant. **Novotel Xinqiao Hotel (B, L, D)**

**BEIJING**

*Friday, October 26*

In the early morning, we visit the Juyongguan section of the celebrated Great Wall, once the northern gateway to Beijing. Later we explore the Commune by the Great Wall, before a 45-minute hike up to the Commune’s private section of the Great Wall, which retains the feeling of ancient glory. Afterwards, we have a gourmet lunch on the terrace of the clubhouse and enjoy the view of the winding wall in distance. We return to the city for a private tour of Beijing’s Dashanzi Contemporary Art Zone, a vibrant art community located in the industrial zone of the city. At sunset, a cocktail party is arranged for us in one of the chic warehouse cafes. Tonight, we enjoy a festive farewell dinner. **Novotel Xinqiao Hotel (B, L, D)**

**BEIJING – U.S.**

*Saturday, October 27*

Transfer to the airport for flights back to the U.S. **(B)**

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### Pricing Information

**MAIN PROGRAM LAND COST:** (Per person, based on double occupancy) \$5,995

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** (Singles are limited and subject to availability) \$895

**BEIJING EXTENSION LAND COST:** (Per person, based on double occupancy) \$945

**EXTENSION SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** (Singles are limited and subject to availability) \$195

**SAMPLE AIRFARE FROM MINNEAPOLIS:** \$1,110

Airfare is current as of March 2007 and subject to change until ticketed. A \$45 per person service fee will be applied for all airline tickets purchased through Siemer & Hand Travel.